



CITY OF RIPON. *g*

== REPORT ==

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1904.

RIPON.

HILL, PRINTER AND STATIONER, 26, MARKET PLACE.

1905.

CITY OF RIPON.

REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

For the year ending December 31st, 1904.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Seventh Annual Report of the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Condition of the City of Ripon for the year ending 31st December, 1904.

I have received and filled up the usual returns from the Local Government Board and West Riding County Council, copies of which are annexed hereto.

I have shewn in these Returns the Deaths in Public Institutions apart from the rest of the City, and also the number of deaths occurring in the City of persons not belonging thereto. A summary of these returns gives the following particulars.

Births.

During the year 1904 the number of Births registered was 172 as compared with 198 in the year 1903, of which 78 were males and 94 females, giving a Birth-rate of 19·1 per 1000. The Birth-rate for 1903 was 23·2 per 1000, and in 1902 19·9 per 1000, so that the above rate shews some decline as compared with the previous year. The Birth-rate for the West Riding was 28·5 in 1903. Of the above Births 10 were illegitimate, as compared with 9 in 1903, and 14 in 1902.

Deaths.

The total number of Deaths registered in the City in 1904 was 126 as compared with 145 in 1903, of which 59 were males and 67 females. Of these 4 were persons non-resident in the City. There were 14 deaths in the Union Workhouse, 3 in the Cottage Hospital and 4 in the Fever Hospital. Two deaths occurred in the County Asylum and 1 in the Leeds Infirmary of persons belonging to the City.

The above figures give a death-rate for the whole City of 14·8 per 1000, or exclusive of Public Institutions, 12·3 per 1000. The death-rate for the whole City in 1903 was 16·1, and in 1902 14·5 per 1000, and for the West Riding (exclusive of the County Boroughs of Leeds, Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield), for the year 1903 was 15·6 per 1000.

The death-rate for the past year is a very satisfactory record, being a considerable improvement upon that of the preceding year, and being only by a fraction slightly higher than that of 1902, the lowest rate recorded in the City.

Infantile Mortality.

During the year 1904 there were 21 deaths registered of infants under one year of age, giving a rate of 122 per 1000 of the Birth Rate. In the preceding year the rate was 90 per thousand, and in 1902, 134 per thousand. The Rate of Infantile Mortality in the West Riding in 1903, was 142 per 1000.

There is no more satisfactory record that a Medical Officer of Health can have to report than a low rate of Infantile Mortality, and though the rate during the past year is higher than it was in 1903, when it was exceptionally low, still it is below the average of the last few years, and is on the whole a subject for congratulation.

Mortality at Groups of Ages.

Under 1 year	....	....	....	...	21
1 — 5	....	....	....	....	10
5 — 15	....	....	....	....	8
15 — 25	....	....	....	....	5
25 — 65	....	....	....	....	44
65 and upwards	....	....	....	....	38
Total					<hr/> 126 <hr/>

Zymotic Diseases.

There were 8 deaths from Zymotic Disease during 1904, viz.: 3 from Diphtheria, 2 from Diarrhœa, 1 from Whooping Cough, 1 from Enteric Fever, and 1 from Influenza. This gives a Zymotic death-rate of ·9 per 1000 as compared with ·5 per 1000 in 1903. The Zymotic death-rate of the West Riding in 1903 was 1·49.

The above rate, though shewing a slight increase on that of the preceding year is a low one, and is a very satisfactory record.

Other Diseases.

During the past year there have been 12 deaths from Phthisis, 7 from other forms of Tubercular Disease, 12 from Bronchitis, 5 from Pneumonia, 9 from Malignant Disease, 9 from Heart Disease, 16 from Senile Decay, and the rest from various causes.

Infectious Diseases.

In the year 1904 there were 62 cases of Infectious Disease notified to me, viz. :—1 of Small Pox, 43 of Diphtheria, 3 of Scarlet Fever, 1 of Enteric Fever, 1 of Puerperal Fever, and 8 of Erysipelas.

In my report for the first quarter of the year, I mentioned that in March I had received a Notification from the Dewsbury Sanitary Authority to the effect that a man named Turner had on the previous day come from that place on a visit to Ripon, and that directly after his departure one of his children was discovered to have Small Pox, and had been removed to the Hospital. In company with the Sanitary Inspector, I at once visited the man and persuaded him to be promptly vaccinated by the public vaccinator, and to go to the Hospital at Lark Hill, promising him that in the event of his not having contracted the disease he should be amply compensated. However in due time he developed Small Pox, though doubtless owing to the vaccination he had the complaint mildly. It is interesting to note that coming as he did from a hot bed of Anti-Vaccination, he was previously un-vaccinated, as were his wife and three children, and that they all contracted the disease, but those who were the last to take it had it mildly owing to having been at once vaccinated as soon as the complaint appeared in the house.

The above case is another illustration of the great value to the City of the Lark Hill Hospital. Had we not had this building it would have been difficult to know what to do. There were cases in the Fever Hospital at the time and it would have been impossible to isolate the man there, and while we were seeking for a solution of the difficulty the disease might have been communicated to others.

The cases of Diphtheria occurred mostly in the first quarter of the year, and were as a rule of a very mild type, indeed without a bacteriological examination at the County Laboratory the diagnosis would have been very uncertain in many of them. In those instances where isolation could not be carried out at home I had the cases removed to the Fever Hospital.

The three cases of Scarlet Fever occurred at different periods of the year, and were isolated cases, evidently imported.

In the case of Enteric Fever I found some Sanitary defects in the dwelling house, and also in the workshop where the patient was employed, and had these remedied.

In the second quarter of the year, owing to the prevalence of Measles among the children attending the Elementary Schools I deemed it expedient to advise the Sanitary Authority to order the closing of Trinity School, and the Cathedral Girls' and Infant Schools.

In connection with this portion of my Report I may mention that 60 specimens were sent to the County Laboratory at Wakefield last year for Bacteriological Examination, viz., 57 for Diphtheria, 3 for serum examination for Enteric Fever.

Sanitary Work, 1904.

Total number of visits paid by Sanitary Inspector	....	412
Total number of nuisances	....	80
Complaints received	....	61
Notices served	....	43
Verbal notices given	....	22
Nuisances remedied	....	75

NATURE OF NUISANCES.

Sinks disconnected	....	6
Defective drains reconstructed and relaid	....	18
Ashpits reconstructed	....	0
Ashpits repaired	....	6
Privies converted into w.c's.	....	10
Defective w.c's. repaired	....	7
Nuisances from animals	....	8
Defective or untrapped gullies	....	11
Dirty houses	....	2
Overcrowding	....	1
Drains choked and cleared	....	4
Smoke from chimney	....	0
Total		73

In addition the drains have been tested with the smoke test at 3 houses, 11 proving defective, and have been relaid wholly or in part where required.

Night Soil Scavenging.

The work of this department has now been in the hands of the Sanitary Committee for over two years, and is at present satisfactory in every way. Scarcely a single report or complaint has been made during the whole of that period. The question of providing proper tips should have immediate attention. A central refuse destructor would certainly be the best way out of the difficulty.

The number of Ashpits emptied last year was 3393, from which 4021 loads were removed. There are also about 320 dust bins in the district which are emptied during the day each week.

New Sewers.

The only new Sewer relayed during 1904 was the Firby Lane Sewer, 9 inches in diameter and with 2 manholes at a cost of about £98.

The existing sewers and manholes have been flushed regular from time to time.

Sewage Farms.

Plans have been prepared for two efficient sedimentation Tanks on modern lines, which ought to be constructed as soon as possible, as the beds are again shewing signs of becoming silted up and choked with the fatty matter and grease from the sewage. This is all that is necessary to bring the farm into a good condition.

The works at Ure Bank are receiving careful and regular attention. A new settling tank and sludge pit have been constructed and the existing tanks repaired.

Various Sanitary Improvements.

The following are a few of the sanitary improvements carried out during the past year, 1904.

1. Fairfield Villas, Palace Road. New drains.
2. Miss Mason, Skellbank. New drains.
3. Harrison's Court. New drains.
4. Crown Hotel. New drains.
5. Mr. M. Wray's Property, Bondgate Green. New drains.
6. 1-2, Iddesleigh Terrace. New drains.
7. Mr. W. Taylor's Property, Lickley Street. New washhouse and w.c.
8. Mrs. Stephenson's Property, St. Wilfrid's Terrace. New bathrooms.
9. Dr. Husband's Property, Princess Road. New bathroom.
10. Mr. Whitham's Property, High St. Agnesgate. New w.c's., &c.

Deposited Plans.

The following plans were deposited and approved by the Building Committee.

1. Eleven Cottages. Brewster Terrace, Mr. G. Brewster.
2. Two New Houses. College Walk, Mr. G. Brewster.
3. Four New Bathrooms and w.c's. St. Wilfrid's Terrace, Mrs. Stephenson.
4. New w.c's at rear of High St. Agnesgate, Mr. Whitham.
5. Ten Houses. Bishopton New Road, Mr. T. Bruce.
6. Eight Houses. Kirkby Road, Messrs. Barwick and Topham.
7. New Laboratory, Gymnasium, Cubicles, &c. Grammar School.
8. New Scullery and additions to house occupied by Mr. T. Waite, Ure Bank, Miss Darnborough.
9. Carriage and Motor Bus shelter. North Bridge, Mr. Bielby.
10. Stable and Coach House at rear of High St. Agnesgate, Mr. A. Trees,
11. Additions to Nos. 22 and 23, Bondgate Green (Iddesleigh Terrace), Mr. Jos. Wright.
12. New Sheds, &c. Union Corn Mill.
13. Passage widening, "Slip Inn," Westgate.
14. New Stables, Coach House and Motor Garage, Unicorn Hotel.
15. New Bathroom and w.c. Princess Road, Dr. Husband.
16. Alterations to Mrs. Johnson's Property, Skellbark.
17. New Stalls at Ripon Stock Sale Market.
18. New Piggeries at High St. Agnesgate, Mr. A. Trees.
19. New Washhouses. Lickley Street, Mr. W. Taylor.
20. Four New Villas. Woodbridge Road, Mr. Coldbeck.
21. New Premises. Westgate, Ripon Co-operative Society.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

In the few Factories which exist in Ripon, I have found the requirements of the Act fully carried out. In the Workshops of the City the demands of the Act with regard to air space, Ventilation and Sanitary Conveniences are complied with. In one instance I found some Sanitary defects which had come into existence since the previous year and I had these promptly remedied.

I have visited and inspected the Common Lodging Houses from time to time, and have also visited the Slaughter Houses, Cowsheds and Dairies within the City. I must again repeat the opinion which I have expressed in previous reports that a Public Slaughter House would be a great boon to the City; some of the present slaughter houses are too near dwellings, and some are antiquated and not in as good sanitary condition as they should be.

I have at various times in company with the Sanitary Inspector visited and inspected the cottage property in the City, and it is satisfactory to note that the improvement in the dwellings of the working classes which I commented on last year still continues. The number of w.c's and sanitary dustbins in connection with cottages is on the increase, and the old insanitary ash pits and privies are gradually decreasing. During the past year I have had very few cases of dirt and overcrowding brought to my notice.

I have attended the Meetings of the Sanitary Committee, and have, when required, given advice on matters affecting Public Health.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. R. GREEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Sanitary Committee.

CITY OF RIPON.

Population (1901)	....	{ Males	....	....	....	....	3708	
		{ Females	....	....	....	....	4522	
							—	8230
Inhabited Houses (1901)	....		....	....	....	....		1854
Uninhabited „ „			98 used as Warehouses,	165 uninhabited				263
Houses Building „	....		....	....	....	....		11
Area in Statute Acres	...		....	....	....	....		1792
Persons to an Acre	....		....	....	....	....		4.6
Total deaths for 1904	....		....	....	....	....		126
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases			....	....	....	....		8
Total Death-rate per 1000	....		....	....	....	....		14.8
Births : 78 Males, 94 Females....			....	....	....	....		172

Year.	Births.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Total Deaths.	Death-rate exclusive of Public Institutions.	Total Death-rate.	Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	Deaths under one year.	Deaths over sixty-five years.
1878	223	25	170	21.3	24.9	31	36	58
1879	242	20	180	23.5	26.4	12	38	60
1880	222	18	163	21.3	23.9	12	39	55
1881	219	13	131	16.1	17.9	9	23	52
1882	229	18	137	16.1	18.3	6	27	54
1883	217	26	136	14.6	18.1	6	23	51
1884	243	18	147	17.1	19.4	4	35	55
1885	200	14	118	13.7	15.5	9	11	55
1886	227	12	157	19.1	20.7	21	29	66
1887	229	16	166	19.6	21.7	8	37	62
1888	223	16	145	16.8	18.9	21	38	39
1889	232	20	143	16	18.7	9	22	57
1890	207	18	129	15.3	17.1	10	25	52
1891	178	16	154	18.5	20.5	4	26	66
1892	189	26	176	19.5	23	6	22	81
1893	184	14	166	20	22.1	26	25	57
1894	186	13	140	17	18.5	6	31	50
1895	208	8	122	15	16.1	8	25	43
1896	196	16	132	15.2	17.4	17	25	60
1897	187	14	117	13.5	15.3	3	14	60
1898	192	16	148	17.2	19.3	11	26	68
1899	194	16	135	14	14.4	12	34	44
1900	177	18	146	14.2	15.1	9	20	64
1901	204	16	143	16.5	17.3	9	21	50
1902	164	14	124	13.09	14.5	5	22	42
1903	198	27	145	13.8	16.1	5	18	45
1904	172	24	126	12.3	14.8	8	21	38

